COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

February 28, 2003 Colorado Commission on Higher Education Office Denver, Colorado

MINUTES

Commissioners

Present: Raymond T. Baker; Peggy Lamm, Chair; Ralph J. Nagel; and Gully Stanford

Commissioners

On Teleconference: Judith Altenberg; Terrance Farina; "Pres" Montoya; and James Stewart.

Advisory Committee

On Teleconference: Wayne Artis.

Commission Staff

Present: Timothy E. Foster, Executive Director; Brian Burnett; JoAnn Evans; Joan

Johnson; and Bridget Mullen.

I. Call to Order

Chair Peggy Lamm called the special teleconference meeting of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education to order at 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room B at the Colorado Commission on Higher Education office in Denver, Colorado. She reported that a guorum was present.

II. Action Item

The purpose of the special meeting was to continue the discussion of the February 27, 2003, special meeting to adopt a tuition and General Fund plan for the governing boards for FY 03-04 budget discussions.

Brian Burnett, CCHE Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the general fund budget and tuition scenarios discussed at the February 27 meeting. He explained scenarios 1B, 4B, and 5B, with B notation maintaining a zero reduction for the State Colleges and Colorado School of Mines based on existing statutes. Pursuant to the Commission's statute authority, it must submit to the Joint Budget committee a formula for allocation of reductions in general funds.

Bridget Mullen, CCHE Financial Analyst, explained scenario 5B, a budget scenario that was developed based on the discussion at the February 27 meeting and collaboration with the governing board representatives, uses total funds to allocate the reductions. Scenario 5B is an average and applied it to all governing board for the general fund reduction formula. Scenario 5B is a combination of Scenarios 1B and 4B.

Betsy Hoffman, President of the University of Colorado, noted that while she prefers scenario 1A, scenario 5B has a clear understandable rationale and could support it.

Kay Norton, President of the University of Northern Colorado, stated that for UNC the various scenarios have similar impact on UNC. She agrees with Dr. Hoffman in supporting a scenario with an understandable rationale and would support Scenario 5B.

John Trefny, President of the Colorado School of Mines, appreciates the simplicity of scenario 5, and supports either A or B, but preferred scenario 5B.

Al Yates, Chancellor of Colorado State University System (CSU), stated that although scenario 4B was financially better for CSU, he said that 1B or 5B are more defensible, and he prefers scenario 5B.

Joe May, President of the Community College System, said that scenario 4 is better for the community colleges, however, he supports scenario 5B because it is the most equitable scenario.

Shelia Kaplan, President of Metropolitan State College of Denver, agrees with her colleagues that scenario 5B was equitable.

<u>Action</u>: Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve Scenario 5B for submission to the Joint Budget Committee. Commissioner Nagel seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

President Yates expressed the hope that the Commission as well as the governing boards would communicate to the General Assembly and everyone, that additional cuts to higher education will be extremely harmful. While higher education recognizes the situation that revenue continues to decline, it is important to try to hold the funding reduction to higher education below \$50,000,000 general fund.

Executive Director Foster will communicate Dr. Yates' message with the formula to the Joint Budget Committee.

Action: Commissioner Baker moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.